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10	UNITED STATES	S DISTRICT COURT
11		RICT OF CALIFORNIA
12	SAN FRANC	ISCO DIVISION
13	IN RE: UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,	Case No. 3:23-md-03084-CRB
	PASSENGER SEXUAL ASSAULT LITIGATION	CERTAIN NACHAWATI PLAINTIFFS'
14	LITIGATION	RESPONSE TO DEFENDANTS UBER
15	This Document Relates to:	TECHNOLOGIES, INC., RASIER, LLC,
16		AND RASIER-CA, LLC'S MOTION REGARDING "FRAUDULENT"
17	Doe L.N v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al., No. 3:24-cv-00120-CRB	PLAINTIFF FACT SHEETS
		Date: February 13, 2026
18	Doe (T.W.) v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al., No. 3:24-cv-00559-CRB	Time: 10:00 a.m.
19	140. 3.24-ev-00337-CRD	Courtroom: 6 – 17th Floor
20	Doe (BW) v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al., No. 3:24-cv-04308-CRB	
	110. J.24-CV-04300-CRD	
21	Doe (ST) v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al.,	
22	No. 3:24-cv-04309-CRB	
23	Doe (A.R.) v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al.,	
24	No. 3:24-cv-04313-CRB	
	Doe (VB) v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al.,	
25	No. 3:24-cv-04317-CRB	
26	DOE (KH) v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al.,	
27	No. 3:24-cv-04326-CRB	
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CERTAIN NACHAWATI PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO UBER'S MOTION REGARDING "FRAUDULENT" PLAINTIFF FACT SHEETS Case No. 3:23-md-03084-CRB

1	Doe (S.F.) v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al.,
2	No. 3:24-cv-04327-CRB
3	Doe (SG) v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al., No. 3:24-cv-04353-CRB
4	Doe (TW) v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al.,
5	No. 3:24-cv-04356-CRB
6 7	Doe (SW) v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al., No. 3:24-cv-04364-CRB
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I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF THE ARGUMENT

The only "fraud" is Uber's Motion, ECF Document 4580.

Uber ignores the language of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 37(b)(2)(A), miscites a case, and proposes an internally inconsistent Order that off-roads from the Rules and the procedures this Court promulgated (*see infra* §III). Uber seeks to squander judicial resources to "evaluat[e]" cases that are no longer pending. Uber's justification for wasting time on dismissed cases is to punish the former plaintiffs' and their counsel—yet it is Uber who mischaracterizes the history of discovery in these cases.

The Plaintiff Fact Sheet ("PFS") amendments Uber decries effect no material changes, but rather conform a handful of answers to information previously provided elsewhere in prior discovery responses (*see infra* §II.A). That plaintiffs who are sexual assault victims became nonresponsive and unavailable, such that counsel could not state they eyeballed these corrections, is not the nefarious plot Uber invents. The published literature amply documents that sexual assault victims as a group struggle to participate in the legal system and that a certain amount of attrition is to be expected (*see infra* §II.D).

Uber does not have clean hands to bring its motion, because it is guilty of materially changing Defendant Fact Sheet ("DFS") answers. Uber denied it could find plaintiffs' Uber accounts and then later admitted plaintiffs had them, and denied it could confirm rides to only later admit the trips had occurred (*see infra* §II.B). Therefore, if the Court orders discovery in dismissed cases, then the undersigned seeks to depose Uber paralegal Alejandra O'Connor on what investigation, if any, she conducted before certifying under penalty of perjury that Uber allegedly could not find accounts for T.W. (MDL 1500), K.C. (MDL 2214), and C.H. (MDL 2231), and allegedly could not confirm the trips of A.V. (MDL 3207) and K.C. (MDL 2214).

Or, Uber's stratagem of litigating dismissed cases could be rejected as the distraction that it is. The unprecedented relief Uber seeks exposes its plan to derail the progress of this MDL by bringing ever more sanctions motions. The pattern is obvious: Uber demands a court order knowing compliance will be impossible, as for example demanding that undersigned produce for depositions

¹ See ECF 4580-4 [Pages 3-4 of 10], 2:26—3:1.

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former plaintiffs who have become unavailable and non-responsive. Disrespectful of the time and attention this Court devoted to PTO10 and its amendment, Uber also demands that the amended PTO10 protocols be ignored and that additional redundant signatures be ordered.

Uber has no factual or legal grounds for the Proposed Order it expects this Court to sign. In fact, some of its demands are made without any attempt to cite any authority. Uber's Motion respectfully should be denied.

II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

A. The Amendments of Which Uber Complains Merely Conformed a Few Answers to Previously Provided Information

Uber seeks depositions of four Nachawati Law Group Plaintiffs² on the basis of purported "material" changes to amended Plaintiff Fact Sheets without their review. *See* Uber's Motion Regarding Fraudulent Plaintiff Fact Sheets (occ. Uber's Mot. filed under seal), ECF 4580 [Page 14 of 17], at 10:20. Uber's so-called "discrepancies" (*id.* at 4:10), do not in truth represent any material changes, but rather restate, in a different part of the PFS form, information already provided.

1. Question 16 (MDL 1496, 1508, 3201).

Uber misleadingly attempts to manufacture a discrepancy with former plaintiff Jane Doe S.W.'s response to PFS Question 16 in her second amended PFS (MDL 1508) based on the addition of a single sentence which states that the incident occurred during the ride. Uber's Mot. (filed under seal) at 6:2-10; Uber's Ex. K (filed under seal), ECF 4580-12 at 10. That sentence is consistent with S.W.'s first and second amended PFS responses to Question 20, which describe the incident as occurring during the course of the ride. Uber's Ex. J (filed under seal), ECF 4580-11 at 10; Uber's Ex. K (filed under seal), ECF 4580-12 at 11. The amendment did not introduce new or changed information; it simply reiterated information provided in answer to Question 20 into the answer to Question 16. Uber's Ex. K (filed under seal), ECF 4580-12 at 11.

Similarly, Uber cites a purported "discrepancy" in former plaintiff Jane Doe K.M.'s response to Question 16 regarding incident location. Uber's Mot. (filed under seal), at 7:1-7. The response to Question 16 was amended from "n/a" to include the same address previously provided in the Uber

² Jane Doe SG (MDL ID: 1496); Jane Doe TW (MDL ID: 1500); Jane Doe SW (MDL ID: 1508); and Jane Doe NLG KM (MDL ID: 3201).

Ride Information Form. *See* Ex. 1, Uber Ride Information Form (MDL ID 3201) 85040 at 1; Uber's Ex. D (filed under seal), ECF 4580-5 at 9; and Uber's Ex. E (filed under seal), ECF 4580-6, at 10. The amendment simply includes the previously provided address.

Uber also inaccurately claims that the former plaintiff in MDL 1496 delayed in providing ride pick-up and drop-off addresses. Uber's Mot. (filed under seal), at 4:13-20. Specifically, Uber laments that Jane Doe S.G. allegedly "changed" her response to PFS Question 16 from "she does not know or recall" to providing specific pick-up and drop-off locations. Uber's Mot. (filed under seal), at 4:1-20. Uber misleadingly states that the addresses were not provided until "[e]ight months later." *Id.* at ECF 4580 [Page 8 of 17], 4:3. However, the same addresses were provided nearly a year earlier in the former plaintiff's Uber Ride Information Form, which was produced before both the first and second amended PFSs. Ex. 2, Uber Ride Information Form (MDL ID 1496) 16464 at 1. The amendment challenged by Uber copies the previously provided addresses into the answer to Question 16. *See* Uber's Ex. G (filed under seal), ECF 4580-8 at 10.

2. Question 42 (MDL 1496, 1500, 1508, 3201)

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Uber points to PFS Question 42, which asks whether the plaintiff seeks out-of-pocket costs relating to diagnoses and/or treatment of injuries. Uber Mot. (filed under seal), 5:1-20, 6:11-19, 7:13-21. The amendments merely state what Uber already knew had it read the previously provided answers to Question 40—there are no out-of-pocket treatment costs because there was no treatment.

In each of the four PFSs, the former plaintiffs stated in response to Question 40 that they did not receive any incident-related diagnoses or treatment.³ As to each amendment attacked by Uber, the amendment simply corrects the Question 42 response to that same fact by clarifying that the former plaintiffs were not seeking to recover any out-of-pocket costs for diagnoses or treatment because—per their response already provided in answer to Question 40—no such diagnoses or treatment occurred.⁴

³ See Jane Doe SG: Uber's Ex. F (filed under seal), ECF 4580-7 at 19; Jane Doe TW: Uber's Ex. H (filed under seal), ECF 4580-9 at 19; Jane Doe SW: Uber's Ex. J (filed under seal), ECF 4580-11 at 19; and Jane Doe NLG KM: Uber's Ex. D (filed under seal), ECF 4580-5 at 19.

⁴ See Jane Doe SG: Uber's Ex. G (filed under seal), ECF 4580-8 at 20-21; Jane Doe TW: Uber's Ex. I (filed under seal), ECF 4580-10 at 20-21; Jane Doe SW: Uber's Ex. K (filed under seal), ECF 4580-12 at 20-21; and Jane Doe NLG KM: Uber's Ex. E (filed under seal), ECF 4580-6 at 20-21.

3. Questions 4 and 17 (MDL 3201).

Uber argues that Jane Doe K.M. purportedly changed her discovery response regarding "the name of the driver" because the PFS Q17 answer originally said "n/a" while the first amended PFS states "Plaintiff does not recall the name of the driver." Uber's Mot. (filed under seal), at 7:8-12; Uber's Ex. D (filed under seal), ECF 4580-5, at 9; Uber's Ex. E (filed under seal), ECF 4580-6, at 10. Uber's characterization is misleading: the amendment does not alter any material information, it simply replaces a placeholder with a statement of non-recollection. Uber's Ex. E (filed under seal), ECF 4580-6 at 10.

Uber also complains that K.M. "changed her answer regarding her current address" in Question 4 by amending her response from "n/a" in the PFS, to include her current address in the first amended PFS. Uber's Mot. (filed under seal), at 6:21-25. In fact, however, K.M.'s current address was previously disclosed in the Uber Ride Information Form as the ride pick-up location. Ex. 1, Uber Ride Information Form (MDL ID 3201) 85040 at 1. *See* Uber's Ex. D (filed under seal), ECF 4580-5, at 4 (disclosing city and state of residence at time of incident). The amendment simply added previously provided information to a second responsive field in the form. *See* Uber's Ex. E (filed under seal), ECF 4580-6, at 4.

In sum, Uber is disingenuously claiming that these clarifications and/or corrections made any difference. The real problem here is not plaintiffs' discovery responses, but Uber's own, as discussed below.

B. Uber Materially Changed DFS Answers.

If any depositions are appropriate, the Court should get to the bottom of Uber's practice of claiming it cannot find or confirm accounts and/or trips that it later (with no new identifying information from the plaintiff) admits existed and/or occurred, by inquiring why an account could not have been identified or substantiated from the onset. Below are examples of such practice:

*DFS responses are highlighted in purple and First Amended DFS responses are highlighted in blue.

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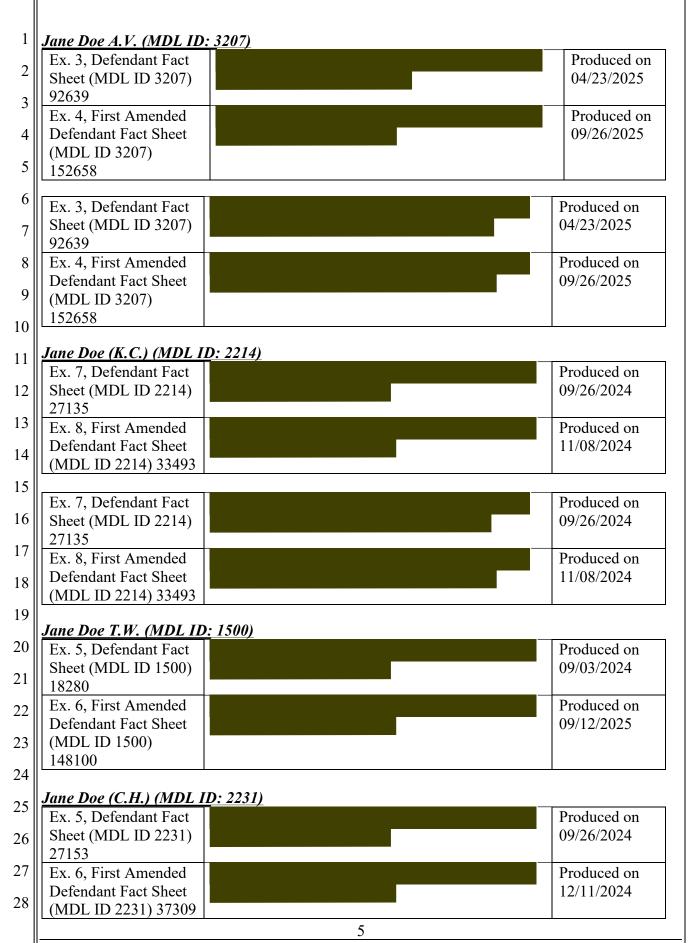
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C. The Word "Completing" on Page 3 of the Form PFS Did Not Prevent Uber from Seeing the Blank Signature Lines in the Verifications.

Uber claims to be defrauded because a sentence on PFS page three states that, "The Plaintiff completing this Plaintiff Fact Sheet is under oath" ECF 4580 [Page 5 of 17], 1:6-9, 1:22; ECF 4580 [Page 6 of 17], 2:3, 2:10, 2:21-25; ECF 4580 [Page 13 of 17], 9:20; ECF 4580 [Page 14 of 17], 10:2, 10:18; ECF 4580 [Page 15 of 17], 11:7, 11:25; ECF 4580-4 [Page 3 of 10], 2:10-13. To be clear, Uber's "fraud" accusation depends on this one sentence on page 3 of the PFS form, which Uber's Motion quotes in whole or in part over a dozen times in its motion and ancillary papers. *See id.* Thus Uber's "fraud" calumny entirely depends on the word "completing" as proof that it was tricked into believing that the former plaintiffs had personally reviewed the amendments. *See, e.g.*, ECF 4580 [Page 5 of 17], at 1:9-10 ("A PFS is fraudulent where (as here) it states that it has been 'completed' [sic]⁵ by the Plaintiff, when in fact the Plaintiff did not review the completed PFS."); *id.* at [Page 14 of 17), 10:17-19 (Uber's only theory as to why the amended PFSs were "false statements" is to ignore the blank signature line and quote the word "complet[ed]").

There is no fraud first because, as established above, the changes merely conformed a handful of answers to previously disclosed information (*see supra* §II.A). Second, Uber had no trouble looking at the blank signature lines and recognizing that the amended PFSs were <u>not</u> complete: Uber submitted a Declaration sworn under penalty of perjury in which Uber's own counsel states the amended PFSs have "not been verified." ECF 4580-1, 3:17 ¶11, *id.* at 3:23 ¶13, *id.* at 4:2 ¶15, *id.* at 4:8 ¶17. Therefore, Uber's claim that the "completing" language on page three created the fraud, presumably by convincing Uber that the PFS amendments were completed, fails in light of Uber's admission revealing it could readily see the blank signature lines.

D. Uber's "Fraud" Theme Seeks to Exploit the Tragic Reasons Why Some Plaintiffs Would Become Non-Responsive.

The point of Uber's motion is to distract from pending cases by harassing people about dismissed ones. Uber's stratagem has its roots in the fact that some of the women who signed up to participate as plaintiffs later stopped responding—that is why they could not eyeball corrective

⁵ Uber argues that the PFS states it was "completed" (e.g., ECF 4580, 1:9), when the word is "completing." ECF 4287, p. 3 [Page 15 of 49].

amendments conforming the PFSs with previously provided information. *See* ECF 4522, at 6. Uber labors to spin the fact that sexual assault victims became non-responsive into a nefarious plot. Rather than proof of "fraud," sexual assault victims' struggles in participating in the legal system are well documented.

Sexual assault survivors experience elevated rates of depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, conditions that frequently interfere with survivors' ability to sustain participation in legal proceedings. Delayed disclosure, hesitation, and withdrawal are common and predictable responses by sexual assault survivors navigating legal systems. Even when survivors report promptly and initially cooperate, attrition rates remain extraordinarily high due to myriad factors including institutional skepticism, evidentiary barriers, and societal pressures. Survivors frequently disengage because legal proceedings are overwhelming, retraumatizing, and perceived as unlikely to deliver justice. Service-provider and legal-services research suggests that a combination of societal attitudes, organizational obstacles, and direct service barriers often exacerbate trauma, increase revictimization, and undermine survivor well-being.

One can only imagine the effect of Uber falsely denying something as fundamental as the

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⁶ See Ex. 9, Theresa Mackey et al., Factors Associated with Long-Term Depressive Symptoms of Sexual Assault Victims, 6 Archives of Psychiatric Nursing 10, 11-12 (1992) (finding that sexual assault survivors exhibit significant and persistent depressive symptoms that impair daily functioning over time), https://www.psychiatricnursing.org/article/0883-9417(92)90050-S/abstract; see also Ex. 10, Courtney E. Ahrens et al., To Tell or Not to Tell: The Impact of Disclosure on Sexual Assault Survivors' Recovery, 25 Violence & Victims 631, 641-644 (2010) (explaining that trauma responses affect survivors' capacity to disclose, engage with institutions, and sustain participation in recovery-related processes), https://roqhas.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/ahrens-2010-impact-of-disclosure-on-sexual-assault-survivors-recovery.pdf.

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⁷ See Ex. 10, supra note 5, at 642-44 (documenting varied disclosure patterns among sexual assault survivors, including delayed and discontinued disclosure linked to trauma and institutional responses).

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⁸ See Ex. 11, Jennifer M. Brown et al., Characteristics Associated with Rape Attrition and the Role Played by Skepticism or Legal Rationality by Investigators and Prosecutors, 13 Psychol., Crime & L. 355, 355-358 (2007), https://doi.org/10.1080/10683160601060507.

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⁹ See Ex. 12, Jodie Murphy-Oikonen et al., Sexual Assault Case Attrition: The Voices of Survivors, SAGE Open, Oct.—Dec. 2022, 8 (2022) (reporting survivor accounts that withdrawal from legal processes is driven by trauma, emotional burden, and secondary victimization), https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/21582440221144612.

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¹⁰ See Ex. 13, Sarah E. Ullman & Stephanie M. Townsend, *Barriers to Working with Sexual Assault Survivors: A Qualitative Study of Rape Crisis Center Workers*, 13 Violence Against Women 412, 418-441 (2007), https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1077801207299191.

existence of the Uber account or that the trip even occurred (see, e.g., supra § II.B).

III. ARGUMENT

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Uber fails to cite apposite authority—when it deigns to cite any at all. In support of its demand for duplicative rounds of signatures, see ECF 4580-4 [Pages 9-10 of 10], Uber does not even attempt to cite caselaw. See ECF 4580 [Pages 14-15 of 17], at 10:23—11:20. Such "shoddy motion practice"—relying on "argument [that] is barely developed and does not cite to any persuasive authority"—"is unacceptable." Freeman v. Alta Bates Summit Med. Ctr. Campus, No. C04-2019SBA, 2004 WL 2326369, at *6–7 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 12, 2004) (citing N.D. Cal. Civ. L.R. 7-4(a)); see also N.D. Cal. Civ. L.R. 3-4(d) (provisions for citations to legal authority). Uber is not entitled to sanctions based on baseless allegations and citation-free demands. See Quillinan v. Ainsworth, 755 F. App'x 690, 690–91 (9th Cir. 2019) ("The district court did not abuse its discretion by denying defendants' motion for sanctions because defendants failed to develop the record sufficiently to demonstrate that sanctions were warranted.") (citation omitted); Ortego v. Lummi Island Scenic Ests. Cmty. Club, Inc., 738 F. App'x 912, 916 (9th Cir. 2018) (affirming denial of Rule 11 sanctions because "Plaintiffs provided neither the authority to support sanctions nor a meaningful explanation of why sanctions were warranted, both of which are required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11.") (citation omitted). As addressed below, that is all Uber's Motion offers.

A. Uber's Deposition Demand Is Incoherent, Lawless, and Impossible.

The cases identified in Uber's Motion were dismissed on November 19, 2025, by order of this Court. ECF 4442. Indeed, the Declaration filed as purported support for Uber's Motion admits that "dismissals ... [were] already granted by the Court." ECF 4580-1, at 2:19-20. If the Court signs Uber's Proposed Order, these claims will be dismissed with prejudice. *See* ECF 4580-4 [Page 3 of 10], 2:19. Therefore, by Uber's design, none of these women have claims pending before the Court.

Uber's motion is thereby incoherent in demanding discovery only available in pending litigation. The former plaintiffs with dismissed cases include MDL ID 1496, 1500, 1508, 3201. ECF

¹¹ Having failed to produce the requisite evidence and arguments necessary to sustain its request for relief in its motion, Uber cannot now supplement its motion with "new facts or different legal arguments" in its reply. *Dytch v. Yoon*, No. C10-02915-MEJ, 2011 WL 839421, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 7, 2011) (collecting cases).

4580-4 [Page 6 of 10], 2:7-9, 2:25. Incomprehensibly, Uber's Proposed Order provides that, "[i]n order for Defendants to ... evaluate these Plaintiffs' cases, the Court orders that each Plaintiff listed on Exhibit A2 shall submit to a two-hour deposition conducted by Defendants within 30 days of this Order." ECF 4580-4 [Pages 3-4 of 10], 2:26—3:1 (emphasis added). It is impossible for Uber to "evaluate these Plaintiffs' cases" because these women have no cases anymore. Docs. 4442, 4580-4. These "Plaintiffs' cases" no longer exist. See id. And, undersigned is no longer in contact with these women and therefore has no way to present them for a deposition in any event. See, generally, ECF 4522, at 6:1-2; *United States v. Rylander*, 460 U.S. 752, 757 (1983) ("While the court is bound by the enforcement order, it will not be blind to evidence that compliance is now factually impossible. Where compliance is impossible, neither the moving party nor the court has any reason to proceed with the civil contempt action."); cf. Aerojet Rocketydyne, Inc. v. Glob. Aerospace, Inc., No. 2:17cv-01515-KJM-AC, 2019 WL 246628, at *5 (E.D. Cal. Jan. 17, 2019) (protective order granted on certain Rule 30(b)(6) topics where it was "impossible for [party] to identify an appropriate deponent and properly prepare that deponent"). Uber's arguments and its Proposed Order (ECF 4580-4) selfcontradict. Uber demands an order dismissing the cases with prejudice while simultaneously demanding depositions to "evaluate ... cases" that do not exist and can never be re-filed.

Not surprisingly, Uber cites no authority supporting its demand for a self-contradictory court order compelling depositions of unavailable former parties to evaluate dismissed cases. Uber first selectively quotes Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 37(b)(2), omitting the limiting language, emphasized below, that renders the Rule inapplicable:

(A) For Not Obeying a Discovery Order. If a party or a party's officer, director, or managing agent--or a witness designated under Rule 30(b)(6) or 31(a)(4)--fails to obey an order to provide or permit discovery, including an order under Rule 26(f), 35, or 37(a), the court where **the action is pending** may issue further just orders. They may include the following:

(i) directing that the matters embraced in the order or other designated facts be taken as established for purposes of the action, as the prevailing party claims;(ii) prohibiting the disobedient party from supporting or opposing designated claims or defenses, or from introducing designated matters in evidence;

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¹² ECF 4580-4 [Pages 3-4 of 10], 2:26—3:1.

¹³ See ECF 4580 [Page 14 of 17], 10:7-8.

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(iii) striking pleadings in whole or in part;

(iv) staying further proceedings until the order is obeyed;(v) dismissing the action or proceeding in whole or in part;

(vi) rendering a default judgment against the disobedient party; or

(vii) treating as contempt of court the failure to obey any order except an order to submit to a physical or mental examination.

Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2)(A) (emphasis added). Pursuant to the above-quoted and emphasized language of the Rule, the Rule does not provide for "further just orders" here because the actions are not pending. Consistently, none of the listed sanctions include former-party depositions. Uber already has its pound of flesh by dismissal, a sanction listed at Rule 37(b)(2)(A)(v). Uber cites no authority for the proposition that sanctions can include depositions to evaluate cases that do not even exist at the time of the depositions.

Ironically, Uber blames plaintiffs for protracted motion practice, ¹⁴ yet Uber's Proposed Order has no purpose other than to set the stage for future motions. The Proposed Order is designed in numerous respects to divert judicial resources into a lawless witch hunt. Uber plans to keep beating the dead horse of dismissed cases by demanding ever more sanctions when the undersigned cannot produce nonresponsive former plaintiffs for depositions to evaluate non-existing cases. Even were there a live party in a pending case, a party cannot be sanctioned under Rule 37(b)(2) for failing to produce another person for examination pursuant to a court order if "the disobedient party shows that it cannot produce the other person." Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2)(B).

Not only is Uber's Proposed Order irreconcilable with Rule 37, but Uber cannot satisfy the requirements for subpoenaing a witness to testify pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45. For one thing, "A subpoena must issue from the court where the action **is pending**." Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(a)(2) (emphasis added). That aside, a subpoena may command a person to attend a deposition "within 100 miles of where the person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person[.]" Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(c)(1)(A). These former party plaintiffs are non-responsive; therefore, it is unclear how Uber could make this determination so as to issue a deposition subpoena even were

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¹⁴ See, e.g., ECF 4580 [Page 5 of 17], 1:12 (lamenting Uber is allegedly "forced" to file a motion when, in truth, Uber is using its serial motions to harass plaintiffs' firms and de-rail pre-trial litigation).

there a still-pending case.

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Uber compounds its disregard for the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure by citing case law that does not remotely support entry of its Proposed Order. Uber boldly miscites *Hardin v. Mendocino Coast Dist. Hosp.*, No. 17-cv-05554-JST(TSH), 2019 WL 4256383, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 9, 2019), as a purported example of courts' discretion to fashion appropriate relief under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 37(b)(2), "include[ing] ordering additional discovery." *See* ECF 4580 [Page 14 of 17], 10:11-16. *Hardin* does not cite Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 37. *See* 2019 WL 4256383. *Hardin* does not even use the words "sanction" or "discretion," much less define the court's discretion in imposing sanctions. *See id.* Nor does *Hardin* address, much less condone, depositions of unavailable non-parties to evaluate cases no longer pending before the Court. *See id.*

Grouse River Outfitters, Ltd. v. Oracle Corp., 848 F. App'x 238, 244 (9th Cir. 2021) (cited at ECF 4580 [Page 14 of 17], at 10:12-13), says nothing allowing depositions of former parties no longer before the Court in order to evaluate cases dismissed with prejudice, but rather recognized the district court's discretion in granting a motion in limine excluding a party's damages evidence. Narula v. Orange Cnty. Superior Ct., No. 8:19-cv-00133-DSF-JC, 2021 WL 2406810 (C.D. Cal. May 3, 2021) (cited at ECF 4580 [Page 14 of 17], at 10:15-16), does not address Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 37 or the propriety of ordering impossible depositions of unavailable dismissed parties to evaluate dismissed cases. Indeed, Narula does not address depositions at all. More ironically, it criticizes a party's request for remedy against entities "who have already been dismissed without leave to amend" as "specious." Id. at *5.

Therefore, Uber's demand for court-ordered depositions respectfully should be denied. Were this discovery allowed, then undersigned seeks to depose the person who materially changed DFS answers to only belatedly admit that accounts did in fact exist and that a trip had in fact occurred (*see supra* §II.B). Because this paralegal presumably continues to certify answers in live cases, an investigation into why Uber has claimed ignorance of accounts/trips which it later admits existed/occurred could provide relevant information moving forward.

B. There Was No Fraud, at Least Not on the Part of Plaintiffs or Plaintiffs' Counsel.

As argued above, the "completing" language on page 3 did not prove fraud because Uber

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admitted it understood, from the blank signature lines, that the amendments were not verified, which by definition made them incomplete under PTO10 (see supra §II.C). As a matter of law as well, this is the objectively reasonable interpretation of the blank signature lines.

If a general and a specific provision in an instrument are inconsistent, the specific provision controls. *See Castillo v. CleanNet USA, Inc.*, 358 F. Supp. 3d 912, 946 (N.D. Cal. 2018) (citation omitted); *Smith v. Simmons*, 638 F. Supp. 2d 1180, 1193 (E.D. Cal. 2009) (citation omitted), *aff'd*, 409 F. App'x 88 (9th Cir. 2010). The blank line under the **VERIFICATION** paragraph at the end of the PFS (ECF 4287, p. 16 [Page 28 of 49]), is more specific than the sentence Uber quotes from PFS page 3. Indeed, for all that Uber hypes the word "completing" on page 3, Uber ignores that this sentence appears under the heading "Accuracy and Supplementation." If incompleteness is fraud, as Uber reasons, then the very concept of supplementing would appear to be inapplicable.

Further, the PFS should be interpreted to avoid redundancy and surplusage. See, e.g., Schertzer v. Bank of Am., NA, 109 F.4th 1200, 1209 (9th Cir. 2024) ("An interpretation which gives effect to all provisions of the contract is preferred to one which renders part of the writing superfluous, useless or inexplicable." (quoting Carson v. Mercury Ins. Co., 210 Cal. App. 4th 409, 420, 148 Cal.Rptr.3d 518 (2012))); Hoban v. Nova Cas. Co., 335 F. Supp. 3d 1192, 1203 (E.D. Cal. 2018) (contracts are construed to avoid rendering terms surplusage (parenthetical citing ACL Techs., Inc. v. Northbrook Prop. & Cas. Ins. Co., 17 Cal. App. 4th 1773, 1785, 22 Cal.Rptr.2d 206 (1993))). Uber's argument violates this principle by rendering the verification redundant of the "completing" sentence on page 3. Uber is saying, in a circuitous way, that by submitting an unsigned PFS to the portal, the lack of signature is meaningless because the sentence on PFS page 3 somehow equated with a signature under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(g) — even though Uber undeniably could see the amended PFSs at issue were unsigned. Under Uber's interpretation, the failure of a plaintiff to sign the verification is both a fatal defect requiring dismissal and, inconsistently, meaningless because a sentence on page 3 of the PFS form automatically executed a signature.

Uber's argument is further inconsistent with the Court's Fact Sheet protocol (ECF 4287). The raison d'être of the deficiency protocol presupposes that the penalty for incompleteness is controlled by that protocol. Ignoring this, Uber invents and demands additional punishments and PFS

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certifications different from what the Court ordered. *E.g.*, ECF 4287 [Page 28 of 49] (client verification rather than attorney Rule 26(g) certification); *see also infra* §III.C.

Uber consistently ignores the actual language of Rule 26(g), which is inapplicable to its arguments against the undersigned. Assuming for the sake of argument Rule 26(g) applies, if a discovery response is unsigned, then other parties have no duty to act on it, and the Court must strike it unless a signature is promptly applied after the omission is called to the attorney's or unrepresented party's attention. Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(g)(2). Thus, the lack of a signature is not a "fraud," and the Court has already struck the entire case as a penalty. The fact that the Rule contemplates unsigned discovery documents and allows a cure for same undermines Uber's theory that submitting an unsigned discovery document to a portal is fraud.

C. Uber Demands a Lawless End Run Around the Court's Fact Sheet Implementation Order (ECF 4287).

Uber demands an order requiring that certain firms execute Uber's Exhibit A3 as to any and all plaintiffs they represent in this MDL, and that these plaintiffs—none of whom Uber names in its unprecedented motion—submit additional signatures per Uber's Exhibit A4. ECF 4580-4, at 3:12-4:2. In support of this indiscriminate harassment of unnamed plaintiffs, Uber <u>does not and cannot cite caselaw</u>. See ECF 4580 [Pages 14-15 of 17], at 10:23—11:20.

Uber cannot punish plaintiffs it does not even deign to name based on (false) allegations about an entirely different group of former plaintiffs. Rule 37(b)(2) sanctions must be just and, independently, "must be specifically related to the particular 'claim." Ins. Corp. of Ireland v.

Uber submits a Declaration claiming that, "Nachawati Law Group ... served Rule 26(g) certifications." ECF 4580-1, Declaration of Christopher V. Cotton ISO Defendant's Motion Regarding Fraudulent Plaintiff Fact Sheets, at 2:11-14 ¶3. This is inaccurate. Undersigned filed a "statement" (ECF 4522), which neither cited Rule 26(g) nor used the word "certification" because Rule 26(g) was inapplicable to the discovery at issue. Rule 26(g) only applies to signatures on discovery requests, responses, and objections "by at least one attorney of record in the attorney's own name—or by the party personally, **if unrepresented**[.]" Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(g)(1) (emphasis added). Because the PFS form calls for the signatures of a represented party, Rule 26(g) never applied to the PFSs at issue. Therefore, rather than citing a Federal Rule of Civil Procedure that on its face had no application, which in itself could be deemed some form of falsehood, undersigned filed a statement that omitted any citation to or certification under the inapplicable Rule 26(g). See ECF 4522. Moreover, the signature on that statement would not qualify as a Rule 26(g) certification because it was not a "disclosure under Rule 26(a)(1) or (a)(3)" or a "discovery request, response, or objection." Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(g)(1).

Compagnie des Bauxites de Guinee, 456 U.S. 694, 707 (1982).

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Uber's demands not only lack a scintilla of legal or factual support, but they also violate this Court's Fact Sheet Implementation Orders. The current Fact Sheet Implementation Order, Amended PTO No. 10, ECF 4287, "governs the form, schedule for completion, and service of personal injury Plaintiff Fact Sheets," resolving "the parties' numerous disputes over the form and content of the PFS." ECF 4287, 1:14-15, 1:20-21. Uber's Proposed Order violates this Court's Amended PTO10 in several respects.

First, Uber can only challenge a PFS response through "a deficiency notice outlining the purported deficiency(ies)," and by following a specifically timed protocol thereafter (ECF 4287, at 8:11—9:19)—none of which Uber has done for the unnamed plaintiffs and cases it seeks to subject to Uber's Exhibits A3 and A4.

Second, this Court's Order does not require Rule 26(g) certifications, but rather allows fact sheets signed by plaintiffs represented by counsel (ECF 4287 [Page 28 of 49]) and by defense counsel's paralegals (*id.* at Page 49 of 49). Rule 26(g) only applies to attorneys or parties unrepresented by counsel. Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(g)(1) ("at least one attorney of record in the attorney's own name—or by the party personally, if unrepresented"). Therefore, based on the plain language of the rule, by allowing represented parties and paralegals to sign the discovery responses, Amended PTO10 does not require Rule 26(g) certifications. Uber's attorney certifications (Uber Exhibit A3) are therefore inconsistent with the signature protocols this Court promulgated in PTO10.

Third, the second round of plaintiff signatures Uber demands (Uber Exhibit A4), expose the harassment at the heart of Uber's motion. Uber already has signatures in the verification format this Court approved. ECF 4287 [Page 28 of 49]. A second round of signatures by plaintiffs who already signed what this Court requires in PTO10 is duplicative and harassing.

Fourth, with regard to these untold numbers of cases, Uber is demanding de facto revisions of Amended PTO10 but without completing the revision process dictated therein. ECF 4287, at 11:19-20 ("The Court will not revise either this Order or the fact sheets unless the parties agree on a given change.").

In sum, Uber's campaign of harassing certain targeted plaintiffs' firms and an untold number

of unnamed plaintiffs not only fails for lack of any legal support, but it further reveals Uber's disregard for the time and attention this Honorable Court has devoted to Amended PTO10.¹⁶

IV. CONCLUSION

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Uber's hyperbolic "fraud" accusations seek to capitalize on the fact that former party plaintiffs became non-responsive. Uber goes so far as to include accusations that have nothing to do with the law firms, former plaintiffs, and unnamed current plaintiffs targeted in its motion. ¹⁷ Ignoring its own material failures in DFS responses, Uber distorts unsigned PFS amendments that clarify a handful of former plaintiffs' PFS answers. Uber seeks to mire this litigation in a never-ending series of sanctions motions over discovery answers that are moot because the cases are dismissed.

Uber's distraction stratagem, if successful, would be unprecedented. Uber attempts no caselaw citation—none—even ostensibly legitimizing its demand that an untold number of unnamed plaintiffs be forced to submit additional signatures over and above what this Court has already ordered in Amended PTO10.¹⁸ Uber attempts no caselaw citation—none—even ostensibly legitimizing its campaign of harassing plaintiffs' firms by requiring an untold number of signatures contrary to the Amended PTO10 protocol.¹⁹ Worse still, when Uber attempts to dignify its demand that unavailable former plaintiffs be deposed for the avowed purpose of evaluating cases that are no longer pending, Uber cites inapposite authorities, including a boldly inaccurate citation to *Hardin*, 2019 WL 4256383, at *3.²⁰

Uber's Motion can be summed up thusly: Uber is wasting this Court's valuable time. The undersigned respectfully prays that the Court deny Uber's motion. In the alternative, if Uber is

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¹⁶ As further example of the short shrift Uber accords this Court's PTOs and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Uber represents to this Court that the "amended PFS [were] fil[ed]." ECF 4580 [Page 7 of 17], 3:6. Generally speaking, discovery is not filed in federal court. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(d)(1)(A); *see also* ECF 4287, 6:16-19 (Am. PTO 10 generally incorporating Federal Rules of Civil Procedure by reference). Consistently, this Court did not order that the PFS be filed, but rather that they be served and uploaded. ECF 4287, 7:17-22.

¹⁷ Uber complains about purported facts that have nothing to do with any of the three plaintiffs' firms that its motion targets. *See* ECF 4580 [Pages 12-13], pp. 8:22—9:8 (complaining about Docs. 4103 & 4104).

¹⁸ See ECF 4580 [Pages 14-15 of 17], at 10:22—11:20.

¹⁹ *See id.*

²⁰ See id. at 10:11-16; supra §III.A.

granted any relief, undersigned respectfully requests a six-hour deposition of Uber paralegal Alejandra O'Connor on what investigation, if any, she conducted before certifying that Uber had not located accounts for T.W. (MDL 1500), K.C. (MDL 2214), and C.H. (MDL 2231), and could not confirm the trip for A.V. (MDL 3207) and K.C. (MDL 2214). Perhaps this deposition could reveal that Uber is gaslighting sexual assault victims. Dated: December 19, 2025 NACHAWATI LAW GROUP /s/ Steven S. Schulte 8 Steve Schulte (TX SBN 24051306) Appearance Pro Hac Vice 9 John Raggio (CA Bar No. 338261) 10 Arati Furness (CA Bar No. 225435) NACHAWATI LAW GROUP 11 5489 Blair Road Dallas, TX 75231 12 Telephone: (214) 890-0711 Facsimile: (214) 890-0712 13 schulte@ntrial.com 14 jraggio@ntrial.com afurness@ntrial.com 15 Counsel for Plaintiffs 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on December 19, 2025, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will automatically send notification of the filing to all counsel of record.

/s/ Steven S. Schulte
Steve Schulte (TX SBN 24051306)